Amendments to the Claims

1. (currently amended) ~~A method performed in connection with a dispenser, the dispenser including a dispenser module movably mounted in supporting connection with an enclosure, wherein the dispenser module includes a holder enabling holding of medical items, wherein the dispenser module further includes a dispenser mechanism, wherein the dispenser mechanism is selectively operable to dispense medical items from the holder, the method comprising:~~

~~(a) moving the dispenser module, while mounted, from a first position, wherein the dispenser module is within the enclosure, to a second position, wherein the holder extends outside the enclosure;~~

~~(b) adding or removing at least one medical item from the holder while the holder extends outside the enclosure; and~~

~~(c) moving the dispenser module from the second position to the first position wherein the holder is within the enclosure~~

Apparatus comprising:

a medical item dispenser comprising:

a delivery area, wherein dispensed medical items are accessible to a user in the delivery area,

at least two medical item holder support locations,

wherein a first holder support location is operative to support a first medical item holder operative to hold a plurality of medical items, wherein the first medical item holder is of a first size,

wherein the first holder support location is further operative to support a second medical item holder operative to hold a plurality of medical items, wherein the second medical item holder is of a second size, wherein the second size differs from the first size,

a reference surface adjacent the first holder support location,

wherein the reference surface has rows of human readable indicia thereon,

wherein the indicia rows are spaced in aligned side by side relation,

wherein each indicia row respectively corresponds to a different sized medical item holder,

wherein a first indicia row is operative to indicate the quantity of medical items in a first sized medical item holder supported at the first holder support location,

wherein a second indicia row is operative to indicate the quantity of medical items in a second sized medical item holder supported at the first holder support location,

wherein the dispenser is selectively operative to dispense at least one medical item from adjacent the reference surface to the delivery area.

2-28. (canceled)

29. (new) The apparatus according to claim 1 and further comprising

a medical item holder, wherein the medical item holder is operative to hold a plurality of medical items,

a moving device, wherein the moving device is selectively operative to cause the medical item holder to release at least one medical item therefrom.

30. (new) The apparatus according to claim 29 wherein the holder comprises a helix, and wherein the helix is selectively rotatable by the moving device, and wherein the helix comprises a plurality of turns, and wherein indicia is viewable through at least one turn of the helix.

31. (new) The apparatus according to claim 30 wherein the locations of the indicia in a row correspond to a first spacing between the turns of the helix.

32. (new) The apparatus according to claim 31 wherein the helix is releasably engageable with the moving device, and further comprising a further helix, wherein the further helix is engageable with the moving device and includes a plurality of turns having a second spacing different from the first spacing, and wherein when the second helix is engaged with the moving device the locations of the indicia in a row also correspond to turns of the second helix to indicate a number of medical items in engagement with the second helix.

33. (new) The apparatus according to claim 29 and further comprising an enclosure, and wherein the reference surface is movably mounted in supporting connection with the enclosure.

34. (new) The apparatus according to claim 33 wherein the reference surface is movably mounted in supporting connection with the enclosure through a pair of disposed guides.

35. (new) The apparatus according to claim 34 wherein the moving device is movably mounted in supporting connection with the enclosure through the pair of guides.

36. (new) The apparatus according to claim 35 wherein the moving device is in operative connection with a retractable wiring harness including a releasable connector.

37. (new) The apparatus according to claim 36 wherein after releasing the releasable connector the reference surface, moving device, and helix are disengageable from supporting connection with the enclosure as part of a module.

38. (new) The apparatus according to claim 30 and further comprising a holder guide, and wherein the helix is secured in position by the holder guide, wherein the holder guide includes a first portion that extends in a longitudinal direction through a plurality of turns of the helix.

39. (new) The apparatus according to claim 38 wherein the holder guide comprises a generally U-shaped holder guide.

40. (new) The apparatus according to claim 38 and further comprising a guide extending in the longitudinal direction and in supporting connection with the reference surface, wherein the reference surface includes a plurality of transversely disposed slots, and wherein the guide includes at least one engaging portion releasably engageable in a plurality of the transversely disposed slots.

41. (new) The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the indicia rows include a plurality of aligned numerals.

42. (new) The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the reference surface has three rows of human readable indicia thereon.

43. (new) A method of operating the medical item dispenser of claim 1, comprising:

(a) positioning a plurality of medical items adjacent the reference surface;

(b) operating the medical item dispenser to dispense at least one medical item from adjacent the reference surface to the delivery area.

44. (new) A method comprising:

(a) providing a medical item dispenser comprising:

a delivery area, wherein dispensed medical items are accessible to a user in the delivery area,

at least two medical item holder support locations,

wherein a first holder support location is operative to support a first medical item holder operative to hold a plurality of medical items, wherein the first medical item holder is of a first size,

wherein the first holder support location is further operative to support a second medical item holder operative to hold a plurality of medical items, wherein the second medical item holder is of a second size, wherein the second size differs from the first size,

a reference surface adjacent the first holder support location,

wherein the reference surface has rows of human readable indicia thereon,

wherein the indicia rows are spaced in aligned side by side relation,

wherein each indicia row respectively corresponds to a different sized medical item holder,

wherein a first indicia row is operative to indicate the quantity of medical items in a first sized medical item holder supported at the first holder support location,

wherein a second indicia row is operative to indicate the quantity of medical items in a second sized medical item holder supported at the first holder support location;

(b) positioning a plurality of medical items adjacent the reference surface;

(c) operating the medical item dispenser to dispense at least one medical item from adjacent the reference surface to the delivery area.

45. (new) The method according to claim 44

wherein (a) includes providing a medical item holder adjacent the reference surface and providing a moving device, wherein the medical item holder is operative to hold a plurality of medical items, wherein the moving device is selectively operative to cause the medical item holder to release at least one medical item therefrom,

wherein (b) includes holding a plurality of medical items with the medical item holder,

wherein (c) includes operating the moving device to cause the removal of at least one medical item from the medical item holder, and further comprising

(d) determining the quantity of medical items remaining held by the medical item holder by reading indicia in the indicia row corresponding to the size of the medical item holder.